

## PREFACE

In the absence of a comprehensive household survey program in American Samoa, the Department of Commerce-Statistics Division established an ad hoc system of mid-decade sample surveys to bring up to date, data and subject matters pertaining to demographic, social and economic profile of the territory. This series started with the 1985, 1988 and now the 1995 project. While the U.S. Bureau of Census since 1920 conducted a census in the territory every ten years, American Samoa is excluded from the Bureau of Census Current Population Survey (CPS). This and among other reasons such as the impact of migration, prompted the need for maintaining and updating social and economic characteristics of the resident population.

This report contains a selection of tables obtained from the household sample survey of American Samoa conducted in 1995. The format used in census publications is as far as possible maintained to provide direct comparisons with data display of the last census of 1990.

Every effort was made to comply with standard questionnaire contents and subject matter specifications used by the US Bureau of the Census. For instance, housing questions were basically the same except housing expenditure items were added to the American Samoa Questionnaire. In the Population Section, two specific items unique to American Samoa; namely **Matai Title** and **Religious Affiliation** were included. Otherwise, population questions were basically the same as the 1990 census questionnaire contents. The Expenditure Section including Weekly Diary, (although not included in the regular census program) was included to collect data on household expenditure for reconstructing the American Samoa Consumer Price Index. The Emigration Section was added to try and collect data on out-migration of the resident population.

I would like to thank the many government agencies, organizations and individuals that assisted in this project. To former **Governor A. P. Lutali, Governor Tauese P.F. Sunia and Director of the Department of Commerce, Mr. John Faumuina Jr.**, thank you for your continued support. The continuing interest and financial commitment by **the US Department of Interior-Office of Insular Affairs** contributed a great deal to this and other statistical projects of the government. The technical guidance of the **US Bureau of the Census-International Programs Center**, in particular **Dr. Michael J. Levin, Mr. Michael Stroot** and all the **IMPS Experts** in Washington D.C., thank you for your encouragement. Lastly to my staff at the Statistics Division-**Mrs. Ianeta Kappel, Mrs. Lutia Mata'u, Mr. Fogatia Letuli and Mr. Anthony Loa**. This is a product of your commitment to the development of statistical capabilities in the territory. There are so few of you that at times I thought we will never see the end of this project. Thank you for your support and keep up the hard work.

I must make special mention of my appreciation to the **People of Tutuila and Manu'a** for welcoming survey workers to their homes and taking time out to answer the long list of questions. Without their support, the household survey would not have been a success.

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